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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 10, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

As a member of the IT industry, I feel that it is extremely important that the current Anti-Trust case against Microsoft be resolved as soon as possible. Though I have not agreed with the suit from the beginning, it is my opinion that now is the best opportunity to reach this goal. The settlement reached in November of last year seems satisfactory for all involved. In today's economy we must allow the tech industry and its leading innovator to get back to work. Continuing this fiasco with more legal wrangling will only prove counterproductive.

The settlement reached last November should satisfy the government as well as Microsoft's main competitors. Microsoft did not get off easy. In fact, they have agreed to terms that extend well beyond the original scope of the suit, for the sake of wrapping it up as soon as possible. Under these terms, Microsoft must relinquish source codes and interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products. Additionally, Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows to make it easier for consumers, computer makers, and software developers to promote non-Microsoft applications. These and many more restrictions and obligations will be monitored for compliance by a Technical committee. It seems to me that this settlement is more than fair, and thus should be implemented without further delay.

Now is the time for this country to move past this issue and concentrate on more important matters. I ask that you concentrate your efforts towards realizing the current settlement and ignoring any requests for more litigation. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Carpenter